

3-2019

## School of Music Faculty Newsletter, March 2019

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# Illinois State University School of Music

Faculty/Staff Newsletter • March 2019 • Volume 8, No. 6

## Faculty Accomplishments and News (in alphabetical order):

**Ama Oforiwaa Aduonum** gave the keynote address at the annual ISU Black Heritage Ball on February 23. The title of her presentation was “Hold Fast to Dreams: Towards a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Music Renaissance.” She gave another keynote at the Peoria Proctor Center for their Black History Month Celebration on February 28. Charlie Schlenker aired Oforiwaa’s TEDx Normal Talk, “A Journey from Ghana America,” a performance arts piece involving poetry and song, on WGLT’s Sound Ideas on February 19.



*Oforiwaa Aduonum*

**Allison Alcorn** coordinated inter-departmental efforts bringing New Yorker music critic and Pulitzer Prize finalist Alex Ross to campus on February 18. Ross delivered a public address, “A Rough Guide to 21<sup>st</sup>-century Music,” and hosted a Q&A with students. Ross’s visit was made possible with generous grants from the ISU Sage Fund, CTLT Community Engagement and Culturally-Responsive Learning, College of Arts & Sciences, Department of English, and the School of Music. The lecture drew community members, faculty and administration from across campus, and students from a variety of majors. Students from the Sigma Alpha Iota fraternity participated in marketing and publicity as well as with logistics the evening of the lecture. Allison is hopeful that the Ross lecture will be just the first of many events at

## Upcoming SOM meetings:

3/5/19

- Grad Advisory @ 11am

3/7/19

- His/Theory/Comp @ 11am
- Music Education @ 11am

3/19/19

- Scholarship @ 11am

3/21/19

- Scholarship

3/26/19

- Scholarship @ 11am
- Convocation Recital @ 11am

3/28/19

- Scholarship @ 11am

4/2/19

- Faculty

4/4/19

- Grad Advisory @ 11am

4/9/19

- Advisory @ 11am

4/11/19

- His/Theory/Comp @ 11am
- Music Education @ 11am

## ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY • SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

ISU that provide additional opportunities for students and faculty to think deeply about music and the issues surrounding their performances. As president of the Epsilon Chi chapter of the national music honor fraternity Pi Kappa Lambda, Allison and other faculty members of Pi Kappa Lambda led the 2019 induction ceremony of our newly-reactivated chapter. The last ISU inductees were admitted to PKL in the 1980s. The ceremony followed a year of administrative work to reactivate the chapter, including drafting new bylaws, creating procedures for selection and induction of new members, and transferring ISU faculty into the Epsilon Chi chapter. Seven undergraduate and seventeen graduate students as well as two faculty were inducted into PKL, honoring superior achievement in music study.



*New and current members of the reactivated Epsilon Chi chapter of PKL.*

**Glenn Block** and the ISU Symphony and will be spending the beginning of March in 7 performances of the School of Theater and Dance and School of Music joint collaboration of the musical *The Light in the Piazza*. There are two graduate conductors, **Nicolas Kapustiansky** and **Justyn Jost**, who have been assisting with the production. Each be conducting one of the performances as part of their master's degree requirements. After spring break, the ISU Symphony will be in rehearsal for their final performance in April, featuring Stravinsky's *The Firebird* and the two winners of the Concerto-Aria Competition held in February: **Anna Chen**, student of **Geoffrey Duce**, performing the Liszt *Piano Concerto No. 1*; and **Mason Reidel**, student of **Mark Babbitt**, bass trombone, performing Donald Schnyder's *subZERO*. Following the 10th Annual High School Invitational Orchestra Festival held on February 15, Glenn will host two large and successful high school orchestras: Glenbard East High School,

Tim Fawkes, director, on March 1; and York High School, Ray Ostwald, director, on March 8. ISU wind and string faculty will be involved in helping host and clinic these visiting orchestras.

**David Collier** performed as timpanist with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra on February 9 and as a percussionist for the RED NOTE New Music Festival on February 10. Along with **Ben Stiers**, **Matt James**, and **Miles Bohlman**, he performed the percussion quartet concerto *Invisible Cites* by Dinuk Wijeratne with the ISU Wind Symphony under the direction of **Tony Marinello**. To complete the month of February, David was honored at the ISU Founder's Day Convocation as a 2019 University Professor.



*Invisible Cites percussion quartet with Tony Marinello.*

**Geoffrey Duce** performed two concerto works at the Peoria Symphony Orchestra's February concert as their Artist in Residence: Mendelssohn's *Rondo Brilliant*, Op. 29; and Duke Ellington's rarely heard *New World A-Comin'*, a piece inspired by Roi Ottley's book of the same name. In April, he will finish his residency with the orchestra, performing MacDowell's *Piano Concerto No. 2*.

**Tom Faux** is one of 26 scholars represented in "[Cultural Sustainabilities: Music, Media, Language, Advocacy](#)." Latest word from the University of Illinois Press is that the book will be out in May.



**David Gresham** gave the world premiere of a work for clarinet and orchestra at the 2019 Red Note New Music Festival on February 10 in the Center for the Performing Arts with the ISU Symphony Orchestra. The work was Sydney Hopkinson's *Embers: An Incantation*.

**Phillip Hash** delivered the keynote address at the Mid-South Music Education Research Symposium, held February 8-9 at the University of Mississippi. He also presented a paper titled "Music Instruction at Selected State Normal Schools in the United States" at the 2019 Desert Skies Symposium for Research in Music Education at Arizona State University. On February 16, Phil served as a adjudicator at the McCracken Middle School Solo/Ensemble Festival in Skokie.

**Rachel Hockenberry** was a featured artist at the North Carolina Horn Day at UNC Greensboro on February 2, where the theme was "Create Your Future." In addition to performing a full recital, Rachel gave a master class at which several students performed and she talked about her eclectic career in music. From February 4-14, she (along with **Amy Gilreath**) was on tour with the Siletto Brass Quintet, performing with the Sarasota-Bradenton Pops, the State College of Florida Symphonic Band, as part of the John Davies Cultural Arts Series, and in masterclasses at schools along the East and West coasts of Florida.

**Bill Koehler** served as clinician and adjudicator for the Indian Prairie District Solo and Ensemble Festival, held at Waubonsie Valley High School on February 23. Bill gave a clinic for the New Lenox Junior High School Orchestra on February 15. He also gave two bass clinics and a solo bass performance of John Barleycorn (English Folksong), Improvisation on a minor motive, and "Long is the Night" (by Koehler) for four visiting schools at the ISU Orchestra Festival on February 15.

**Kate Lewis** coordinated a 4-day residency with Cavani Quartet first violinist Annie Fullard on February 15-19. Events included a master class, clinics with String Project students, a chamber orchestra coaching

at U-High, a performance for the High School Orchestra Festival, and a performance of Dvořák's "American Quartet" and the Shostakovich Piano Quintet with Kate, **Adriana Ransom**, **Sarah Gentry**, and **Geoff Duce** on the Bolen Faculty Recital Series. Additionally, Annie, Kate, Adriana, and Sarah performed a Redbird Musical Adventures concert at the University Galleries, which drew over 115 children and their parents. The residency was funded with grants from the Sage Fund and the Fell Trust.



*Violinist Annie Fullard with the Faculty Piano Quartet.*

**Roy Magnuson's** new work, *Spark* for winds, percussion, electronics, and spoken word, will be premiered on March 25 by the Tomah High School Wind Ensemble at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts. Roy will also be presenting his new virtual reality composition software, solsticeVR, at the University of Illinois composers forum on March 5.

**Tony Marinello** had a two-day residency with the bands at Lockport High School, where he worked with the Wind Ensemble under Brian Covey and Symphonic Band under Andrew Beckwith. He was also the guest clinician at Carl Sandburg High School for the Southwest Suburban Conference Band Festival, where he worked with the top bands from Carl Sandburg High School under Stewart Bailey, Lincoln-Way East High School under Bert Johnson, and Homewood-Flossmoor High School under ISU alumna **Sarah Whitlock**. Tony was also an invited clinician for the Midwest Musical Festival at Lemont High School, where he adjudicated and gave clinics to numerous high school bands from the Chicagoland area. Artistically, he was

the conductor for the ISU faculty chamber ensemble that performed Igor Santos' *through thoughts of a different kind*, the winner of the chamber music competition of the 2019 REDNOTE New Music Festival. The Wind Symphony also collaborated with visiting composer Chen Yi on her piece *Dragon Rhyme*. She was very impressed with the Wind Symphony stating: "Your wind ensemble really sounded brilliantly, with clear layers, accurate pitches and rhythm, well balanced in transparent sonority. Your performance is absolutely energetic and expressive, with well-crafted textures and dramatic shapes. Bravo and congratulations!!! I am grateful for your great support to me and to new music. Your contribution to American music is unmistakable." Tony also hosted the inaugural ISU Concert Band Recording Sessions in the Center for the Performing Arts on February 15 and 16. Seven high school bands visited the campus and made recordings for various state and national festival submissions. The Symphonic Winds had a joint concert on February 15 with the O'Fallon Township Symphonic Winds under ISU alumnus **Phil Carter**. The Wind Symphony had a joint concert with the O'Fallon Township Wind Ensemble under ISU alumna **Melissa Gustafson-Hinds**. The Wind Symphony concert featured a collaboration with **David Collier**, **Ben Stiers**, graduate student **Matthew James**, and undergraduate student **Miles Bohlman** on Dinuk Wijeratne's *Invisible Cities* for percussion quartet and wind ensemble. Lastly, the Wind Symphony was the ceremonial ensemble for the annual Founder's Day Convocation.

**Carl Schimmel** and **Roy Magnuson** wish to thank all of the faculty, staff, and students who made RED NOTE a success this year, especially **Paul Nolen**, **Glenn Block**, **Tony Marinello**, and **Karyl Carlson**.

**Matthew Smith** performed modular synthesizer alongside Stefen Robinson (guitar) and Michael Carlson (percussion) for the debut of their group, Shoshin Trio, at [cometogetherspace](http://cometogetherspace) on February 16. Shoshin Trio is based on the Zen concept of "beginner's mind," and performances are improvised within a constrained and meditative form. The performance was recorded and is being prepared for release on streaming services.

**David Snyder** performed with the Illinois Valley Symphony on February 22 at LaSalle/Peru High School in an outreach concert for students. In addition, Dr. Snyder coached two small ensembles at Parkside Junior High in preparation for IGSMA contest and gave a clinic for the Parkside Junior High Honor Band on February 13.

### Upcoming Events

All events scheduled through Peggy DeHaven in CE 225 will be listed on the **University Calendar**. Please check your events for accuracy and let Peggy know if corrections need to be made. If your event does not yet have a description included, send text to Peggy so that she may add it to your event announcement.



### Upcoming Concerts, Important Dates

- 3/3/19 Afternoon of Brass @ 3pm, CPA
- 3/4/19 F-Plus with Lisa Perry @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 3/6/19 Michelle Vought @ 8pm, KRH
- 3/19/19 Elizabeth Thompson @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 3/20/19 Faculty Jazz @ 8pm, KRH
- 3/22/19 Symphonic Winds @ 8pm, CPA
- 3/23/19 Audition Day @ 9am, CPA
- 3/26/19 Convocation Recital @ 11am, CPA
- 3/27/19 Wind Symphony @ 8pm, CPA
- 3/28/19 Black Music: Showcase & Sing @ 7pm, KRH
- 3/31/19 Men's Glee, Women's Choir, BV @ 3pm, CPA
- 4/2/19 Rachel Hockenberry @ 8pm, KRH
- 4/5/19 Allan Glassman master class @ 7pm, CPA
- 4/6/19 Civic Chorale @ 8pm, CPA
- 4/7/19 Concert & Chamber Choir, Mads @ 3pm, CPA
- 4/10/19 Guitar Ensemble @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 4/12/19 Jazz Festival Concert @ 8pm, CPA
- 4/13/19 Jazz Festival Concert @ 8pm, CPA
- 4/14/19 Percussion Ensemble @ 7pm, CPA